

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application
PCT/EP2003/007457 filed July 10, 2003**

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-10, without prejudice, and add new claims 11-30, in accordance with the following complete listing of all claims ever presented. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the instant application:

Claims 1-10. (canceled)

Claim 11. (New): A cosmetic preparation comprising an amount of at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent selected from glycyrrhetic acid, glycyrrhetic acid derivatives and extracts of *Glycyrrhiza glabra*, and their salts, effective to inhibit or prevent the growth of bacteria.

Claim 12. (New): A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent is selected from the group consisting of alkali metal, alkaline earth metal, ammonium, alkylammonium, alkanolammonium, glucammonium and zinc salts of glycyrrhetic acid, the esters of glycyrrhetic acid with linear or branched aliphatic alcohols containing 1 to 18 carbon atoms and the full or partial esters of glycyrrhetic acid with polyols containing 2 to 15 carbon atoms and at least 2 hydroxyl groups.

Claim 13. (New): A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent is an extract of *Glycyrrhiza glabra*.

Claim 14. (New): A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent is selected from one or more of the potassium, ammonium and zinc salt of glycyrrhetic acid and glycyrrhetic acid esters with C₁₆₋₁₈ fatty alcohols.

Claim 15. (New): A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent is present in the amount of 0.1 to 5% by weight, based on the preparation.

Claim 16. (New): A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11 containing at least one other

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application
PCT/EP2003/007457 filed July 10, 2003**

antibacterial or antibiotic component selected from the group consisting of azelaic acid and derivatives thereof, salicylic acid and derivatives thereof, benzoyl peroxide, hexachlorophene, dodecylbenzenesulfonic acid, 2,2',2'-nitrilotriethanol salts, dexpanthenol, resorcinol, erythromycin, coal tar (ichthyol) and fine-particle sulfur and mixtures thereof.

Claim 17. (New): A cosmetic preparation according to claim 16 wherein the at least one other antibacterial or antibiotic component is present in quantities of 0.1 to 5% by weight, based on the preparation.

Claim 18. (New): A cosmetic preparation according to claim 16 wherein the amount of at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent, on the one hand, and the at least one other antibacterial or antibiotic component, on the other hand, are present in a ratio by weight of 10:90 to 90:10.

Claim 19. (New): A cosmetic preparation according to claim 16 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent and, optionally, the at least one other antibacterial or antibiotic component are in microencapsulated form.

Claim 20. (New): A composition for treating or preventing acne comprising a cosmetic preparation according to claim 12.

Claim 21. (New): A composition for treating or preventing acne comprising a cosmetic preparation according to claim 16.

Claim 22. (New): A method for treating or preventing acne, comprising administering to a person in need thereof a cosmetic preparation comprising an amount of at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent selected from glycyrrhetic acid, glycyrrhetic acid derivatives and extracts of *Glycyrrhiza glabra*, and their salts, effective to inhibit or prevent the growth of bacteria causing or exacerbating acne.

Claim 23. (New): A method according to claim 22 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic acid antibacterial agent is selected from the group consisting of alkali metal, alkaline earth metal,

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application
PCT/EP2003/007457 filed July 10, 2003**

ammonium, alkylammonium, alkanolammonium, glucammonium and zinc salts of glycyrrhetic acid, the esters of glycyrrhetic acid with linear or branched aliphatic alcohols containing 1 to 18 carbon atoms and the full or partial esters of glycyrrhetic acid with polyols containing 2 to 15 carbon atoms and at least 2 hydroxyl groups.

Claim 24. (New): A method according to claim 22 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent is an extract of *Glycyrrhiza glabra*.

Claim 25. (New): A method according to claim 22 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent is selected from one or more of the potassium, ammonium and zinc salt of glycyrrhetic acid and glycyrrhetic acid esters with C₁₆₋₁₈ fatty alcohols.

Claim 26. (New): A method according to claim 22 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent is present in the amount of 0.1 to 5% by weight, based on the preparation.

Claim 27. (New): A method according to claim 22 wherein the cosmetic preparation contains at least one other antibacterial or antibiotic components selected from the group consisting of azelaic acid and derivatives thereof, salicylic acid and derivatives thereof, benzoyl peroxide, hexachlorophene, dodecylbenzenesulfonic acid, 2,2',2'-nitrilotriethanol salts, dexpanthenol, resorcinol, erythromycin, coal tar (ichthyol) and fine-particle sulfur and mixtures thereof.

Claim 28. (New): A method according to claim 27 wherein the at least one other antibacterial or antibiotic component is present in quantities of 0.1 to 5% by weight, based on the preparation.

Claim 29. (New): A method according to claim 28 wherein the amount of at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent, on the one hand, and the at least one other antibacterial or antibiotic component, on the other hand, are present in a ratio by weight of 10:90 to 90:10.

Claim 30. (New): A method according to claim 27 wherein the at least one glycyrrhetic antibacterial agent and, optionally, the at least one other antibacterial or antibiotic component comprising the cosmetic preparation are in microencapsulated form.